

Pluvialis squatarola (Black-bellied Plover)

Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Aves (Birds)

Order: Charadriiformes (Plovers, Sandpipers, And Allies)

Family: Charadriidae (Lapwings And Plovers)

General comments:

Considered stable range-wide, considered species of low concern by US Shorebird Conservation Plan however due to moderate vulnerability to climate change (Shorebirds of Conservation Concern in the U. S. - 2015) is listed as priority 3.

Species Conservation Range Maps for Black-bellied Plover:

Town Map: [Pluvialis squatarola_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Pluvialis squatarola_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority: NA

High Climate Change Vulnerability:

Pluvialis squatarola is highly vulnerable to climate change.

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Black-bellied Plover:

Formation Name	Cliff & Rock
Macrogroup Name	Rocky Coast
Formation Name	Intertidal
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Bedrock
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Gravel Shore
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Mollusc Reefs
Macrogroup Name	Intertidal Mudflat

Stressors Assigned to Black-bellied Plover:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to Black-bellied Plover or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Black-bellied Plover:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Black-bellied Plover or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Shorebirds Guild:

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Conservation Action	Category: Survey and Monitoring	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Identify and map priority feeding and roosting areas including offshore habitats, and implement protection initiatives. Enter data in IFW ETSC database.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge, Industrial and Military Effluents, Housing and Urban Areas, Tourism and Recreational Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Species Management	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
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Place symbolic stake and twine fencing around important beach roosting areas with signage to identify roosting areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities, Tourism and Recreational Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Work with the Maine Department of Marine Resources to conduct research to determine the impact of macroalgae harvest on wintering waterfowl

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action	Category: Public Outreach	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Provide outreach to pet owners, beachgoers, kayakers, beach managers, and landowners to raise public awareness on shorebirds and on the impacts of disturbance from recreational activities in coastal areas.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities

Conservation Action	Category: Habitat Management	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
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Use voluntary agreements, conservation easements, conservation tax abatements and incentives to protect important habitats

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Work and Other Activities, Recreational Activities, Housing and Urban Areas, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Conservation Action	Category: Survey and Monitoring	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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To determine population status continue monitoring program for SGCN shorebird species at high priority migration sites coastwide. Continue to coordinate with ISS, PRISM, Atlantic Flyway ESMP programs.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Identify prey resources in significant staging areas to determine potential limiting factors and optimal management techniques to promote these resources.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
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Determine length of stay at stopover areas, site fidelity, local movements and premigration condition to determine if coastal habitats are meeting shorebird requirements for successful migration.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

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Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: moderate	Type: new
Determine limiting factors for SGCN shorebird species on breeding, migratory, or wintering areas.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Gain a better understanding of the extent and impacts of algae harvesting on staging and wintering shorebirds. Conduct longterm monitoring of ecosystem-wide impacts of cutting algae to determine potential impacts to shorebird habitats and invertebrate pr			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.